



ST. JEROME CHURCH
23 HALF MILE ROAD
NORWALK, CT 06851
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October 18, 2010

Dear Parish Family:

Enclosed you will find the parish financial statement for fiscal year 2009-2010. As with most things, it contains both good and bad news. The good news is that last year the parish received three major bequests: one for \$101,000, a second for \$70,000, and a third for \$25,000. Amazingly, the third was from a former parish family who had moved away. The loyalty so many have to the parish is truly inspiring.

The bad news is that our Sunday Offertory collections were down from the needed amount budgeted. We budgeted \$541,600 and took in \$515,831. If it were not for the three bequests and the success of the raffle, we would have been in deep trouble. The main reason Offertory collections are behind is that many parishioners do not attend every Sunday. If we had the weekly attendance that we do on the REACH Sundays in October, we could meet budget.

You can help by joining Faith Direct or by making a monthly pledge to the parish. Meanwhile, we are enclosing an envelope for special projects this year. The monies collected will go to pay for the new lighting in the Half Mile parking lot as well as for a hoped-for beautification of the East Rocks entrance to the church. We also have strengthened TOTAL, our teen program, by adding Joe O'Callaghan, Jr. on a part-time basis to assist Pat Olson who is half-time. The cost of these three projects is \$18,000. Please be as generous as you can in responding to our need. If everyone in the parish were to make a donation to cover the Sundays you have missed, the result would be well over \$25,000.

Many thanks to all of you who work in so many ways to make this the great parish it is. If you have any questions, you can contact me or Bob Olson, the chairperson of the Finance Committee. Know that you are in my prayers, and if we can help you, let us know.

Gratefully,
Rev. David Blanchfield
Pastor